

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein is respectfully requested. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 7, 2010.

The Applicant would like to thank the examiner and her supervisor for the courtesy extended during the telephone interview of May 25, 2010. As discussed at the interview, the present invention pertains to a method and apparatus for making a plurality of cement panels sequentially, e.g., one on top of the other. It is well known in the art that a form for making a cement panel must have a base or bed and vertical sidewalls disposed around the bed defining the size and shape of the panel. A liquid or semi-liquid mixture is then poured into the form and allowed to cure to generate the cement panel. The bottom surface of the panel is defined by the bed and the sides are defined by the sidewalls of the form.

As discussed at the interview, a frame is formed for each concrete slab 10a, 10b by two fixed vertical walls 6 and movable horizontal or side members 4. The horizontal members 4 are clamped at their four corners formed by columns 12A, 12B, with column 12 A being fixed and 12B being selectively pivotable to allow the two columns to selectively clamp and release the horizontal members, as shown in Fig. 7.

These features of the invention are clearly recited in the claims. As a result, the formwork as described and claimed can be used to make sequential concrete panels with each panel (except for the first one, of course) being formed between the

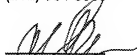
two walls, horizontal side members defining the sides of the concrete slabs the top surface of the previous slab forming the floor of the latest concrete slab. As discussed at the interview such an arrangement is not taught or disclosed by the prior art simply does not teach this arrangement as well. More specifically, Veale shows a system in which the form is shifted upward using hydraulics. Plough shows a form for making vertical concrete columns in which the whole sides 14, 16 pivot about a vertical axis.

New claim 27 recites that the second upright is pivotable in a vertical plane between the first and second positions. This is another feature of the invention that is not taught by the prior art. New Claims 28-30 recite the invention in a more distinct format and are patentable over the prior art for the reasons discussed above.

In summary, the claims are patentably distinguishable and should be allowed. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1730.

Respectfully submitted,
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